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IN THE INTERESTS
OF THE

....BRETHREN CHURCH....

BY THE

BRETHREN BOOK AND TRACT COMMITTEE,
ASHLAND, OHIO.

Notes and Comments.

OUR stock of Brethren Quarterlies is almost exhausted. There are yet several hundred Youths' on hand. Our schools have been faithful to the literature of the church for which they have our thanks.

It seems that our Sunday-schools would prefer to have *Our Little Folks* mailed in time for distribution one week ahead. This can easily be done, and we will see that our customers are accommodated in this matter.

WHATEVER good men may have done in the past, in the light we have to-day we can no longer wink at the deeds of darkness. We must be free from these things ourselves. We must show the world clean garments. We must be living epistles, read of all men. A Christian cannot indulge in the deeds of darkness. He must put on the armor of light—the whole armor of God—and resist all temptations to vice.—*The Bible Reader*.

THE editor of a newspaper, religious or secular is often unjustly criticised because certain articles do not appear in the paper or because of typographical errors, etc. The following from the *Religious Telescope* is to the point: A brother once wrote, inquiring why a certain obituary had not been published. He was informed that it had not been received—

that all obituaries were published in the order received, and as soon as our space would permit. A short time afterward this brother wrote us that the obituary had never been sent; that he had found it in a drawer among other papers where he had placed it. Others complain sometimes of omissions and changes, etc., when these are due to their own hasty or careless writing. But let it not be forgotten by those who are inclined to magnify the editor's mistakes that his work is of a very laborious character, involving the giving attention to a multitude of details. Then, too, much that is done must be done hurriedly. This haste necessarily admits more mistakes than can possibly creep into a monthly or quarterly publication. Typographical errors or a wrong punctuation may greatly change a writer's meaning. These may and do occur with the most careful proof reading. If all knew how much they owe to the printers' skill and pains they would not be so inclined to complain over occasional mistakes.

WE commend these words from one of our *exchanges* to every minister in the Brethren church:—

"Is it not a lamentable state of things when some ministers have so little regard for the ministerial call as to send in bids with full plans and specifications? If such is their method of getting into the service of a congregation, what must the service itself be! It seems that they actually lay their robes, bring to their aid every possible influence, and then, when they have pulled every string within their reach and secured, 'The Call,' in unblushing hypocrisy they ask the Lord to make plain to them their duty! The sooner such ministerial stuff is spewed out, the better it will be for the church. When the Lord wanted a king, he knew how to find the shepherd lad and bring him to the throne; and when he wants a minister for a particular field of labor, he knows better than we how to find him and set him to work."

ON Monday, April 1, 1895, the women of Ohio, for the first time exercised the elective franchise. Their right to vote was limited to the choice of members of the public school boards. Considerable interest was manifested, and the manner in which they discharged their duty should make it clear to every thinking and intelligent man, that *to vote is a womanly act*. There is only one thing that prevents women from being in full possession of the elective franchise, and that one thing is the influence of the saloon in politics.

Do you say these are hard times? In this you are correct. But what is the cause? Uncle Sam takes in each year, the snug little sum of \$100,000,000 in revenue on the sale of intoxicating liquors. But this you say, ought to run the government. It *does* run it—running it to ruin fast enough. After all that has been said of the evils of intemperance, it yet remains true and needs to be repeated that *drunkenness* is now the great national crime. Look at these figures, and is it any wonder that there is poverty in the land?

Direct cost,	\$1,000,000,000
Indirect cost—Lost labor	
caused by drinking,	\$440,000,000
Lost labor of liquor dealers,	300,000,000
Sickness caused by liquor,	100,000,000
Crime caused by liquor,	37,500,000
Insanity caused by liquor,	17,000,000
Pauperism caused by liquor,	8,000,000
Total,	\$1,902,500,000

Compare this with what is spent annually in the United States for the ordinary necessities of life.

Bread	\$505,000,000
Meat	303,000,000
Woolen goods,	237,000,000
Cotton goods,	210,000,000
Boots and shoes,	196,000,000
Sugar and molasses,	155,000,000
Total,	\$1,606,000,000

\$1,606,000,000 for the necessities of life and \$1,902,500,000 for rum! Is it any wonder the land is full of woe and that the past year there were 4,912 suicides and 9,800 murders in this country?